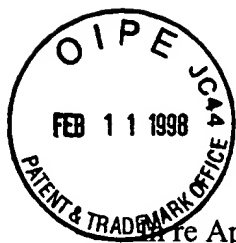


#2



PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 046124-5001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Masahiro IWAMOTO et al.)

Application No.: 08/878,177)

Group Art Unit:

Filed: June 1, 1997)

Examiner:

For: CELL CALCIFICATION SUPPRESSING)
PROTEINS, AND GENES OF THE)
PROTEINS)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, line 17-18, delete "within cell nuclei" and "system".

Page 21, line 24, change "at wavelengths" to --at exciter wavelength--;
before "510nm" insert --analyzer wavelength of --.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 11, line 5, change "claims 6, or 7" to --claim 6--.

Claim 5, line 4, change "any of claims 8-11" to --claim 8--.